

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/787,960

Examiner

Phuongchau Ba Nguyen

Applicant(s)

HINDELANG ET AL.

Art Unit

2665

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8-1-1.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 25-48; Renumbered as 1-24 respectively.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 5-23-3
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 25-35, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a method for estimating a transmission quality of a digital communication signal, the method comprising the steps of "obtaining a measure for the transmission quality via low-pass filtering of the bit values of the transmitted sequence of bits," which is considered in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claim 25.

Regarding claims 36-44, the prior art fails to teach or suggest an apparatus for estimating a transmission quality of a digital communication signal, for connection to an output of an equalizer of a receiver for digital communication signal, "wherein the apparatus receives from the equalizer, for a sequence of bits transmitted by a transmitter, bit values allocated by the equalizer and a measure of reliability of the allocation of the transmitted bits, wherein the apparatus comprises a low-pass filter which, by smoothing rapid fluctuations in the reliability measure, supplies a signal representative of the transmission quality," which is considered in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claim 36.

Regarding claims 45-46, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a mobile terminal for a mobile radio system, "wherein the apparatus receives from the equalizer, for a sequence of bits transmitted by a transmitter, bit values allocated by the equalizer and a measure of reliability of the allocation of the transmitted bits, the apparatus including a low pass filter which, by smoothing rapid fluctuations in the reliability measure of the transmitted sequence of bits, supplies a signal representative of the transmission

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quality," which is considered in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claim 45.

Regarding claims 47-48, the prior art fails to teach a base station for a mobile radio system comprising "wherein the apparatus receives from the equalizer, for a sequence of bits transmitted by a transmitter, bit values allocated by the equalizer and a measure of reliability of the allocation of the transmitted bits, the apparatus including a low pass filter which, by smoothing rapid fluctuations in the reliability measure of the transmitted sequence of bits, supplies a signal representative of the transmission quality," which is considered in combination with other limitations, as applied to the independent claim 47.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuongchau Ba Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3148. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on 571-272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Phuongchau Ba Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 2665

DUCHO
PRIMARY EXAMINER



10-3-05